

A New Genus of Deticinae.

By JAMES A. G. REHN.

The species on which this genus is founded was described by the writer (Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., XXVII, p. 89) as a species of *Capnobotes*, but a closer study of the descriptions and plates of allied genera has confirmed the belief that it is generically distinct. The generic characters would be as in the subjoined diagnosis.

NEOBARRETTIA n. gen.

Pronotum saddle shaped, the posterior portion being elevated much more than the anterior portion; pro- meso- and metasternum with paired spines, those of the metasternum being the stoutest and those of the prosternum the most slender; tegmina and wings abbreviated, the former broadly rounded.

Type.--*Capnobotes imperfectus* Rehn. Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., XXVII, p. 89.

I take pleasure in dedicating this remarkable genus to Mr. Otis W. Barrett, who collected the three types at Rio Cocula, State of Guerrero, Mexico.

This genus is one of the most interesting and remarkable in the subfamily. The position of it would probably be between *Capnobotes* and *Apote*, though this is hardly more than conjecture, as I cannot examine specimens of those genera to study the correlation of characters which seem so distinctive in specimens of the new genus.

Professor Lawrence Bruner informs me that he has a specimen of the new genus collected by Mr. Barrett at the same locality.

Three New Species of Diptera.

By D. W. COQUILLET.

In the course of investigating the spread of diseases through the agency of insects, Dr. L. O. Howard encountered three new species of Diptera, and as it is desirable to exclude from his report all matter of a purely technical nature, a description of the new forms is offered herewith:

Chironomus halteralis sp. nov.

Head black, the palpi and antennæ yellowish brown, plumosity of male antennæ dark gray; thorax dark brown, the anterior end tinged with yellow, a pair of broad, gray pruinose vittæ on the posterior half of the mesonotum, the hairs light yellow; scutellum dark yellow; abdomen black, slightly polished, thinly covered with rather long yellow hairs; femora, tibiæ and tarsi yellow, bases of femora slightly tinged with brown; front tarsi slender, almost as long as the body, destitute of hairs, the first joint about twice as long as the front tibia; middle and hind tibiæ and their tarsi in the male thickly covered with rather long yellow hairs, much sparser in the female; halteres pale yellow, the knobs black; wings bare, hyaline, the apical half slightly darker, veins in the basal half yellow, in the apical half more brownish; length, 2 to 3 mm. Two males and two females. One of the females was collected May 16, 1899, by Mr. F. C. Pratt; the remaining specimens were collected May 22, June 2 and June 6, 1900, by Mr. Herbert S. Barber.

Hab.—Washington, D. C.

Type: No. 5202, U. S. Nat. Museum.

Helicobia quadrisetosa sp. nov.

Black, the apices of second antennal joints, face and genitalia yellow, frontal vitta dark brown; front of male at narrowest part three-fifths as wide as either eye, face yellow pruinose, third joint of antennæ three times as long as the second; body bluish gray pruinose, thorax marked with three black vittæ, the median one almost crossing the scutellum, four pairs postsutural dorsocentral bristles, the bristly hairs very short and depressed, abdomen with a blackish dorsal line and reflecting dark spots, second segment bearing a marginal row of small bristles of nearly an equal length and with a much longer lateral bristle, third and fourth segments each bearing a marginal row of bristles of nearly an equal length, longest on the fourth; first segment of the genitalia in the female also bearing a marginal row of bristles, in the male with a discal row of about six bristles; male hypopygium very large, polished, the first segment grayish yellow pruinose; hairs of legs very short, middle tibiæ of male each bearing a long bristle below the middle of the outer anterior side, on the posterior side with a short bristle at one-third its length and with a transverse pair of short ones at two-thirds of its length; hind tibiæ each bearing a pair of long bristles on the outer side near one-third of its length and with a second pair near two-thirds of its length in the female with an additional bristle, situated below the middle of the inner side of each middle and hind tibia; wings hyaline, costal spine very small, first vein bristly from slightly beyond base of second vein nearly to apex of auxiliary vein, third vein bristly almost to small crossvein; length, 4.5 to 6 mm. Two males and four females, collected by Mr. F. C. Pratt, in 1899.

Hab.—Travilah, Md. (June 10 and 20); Washington, D. C.

(May 12 and 29, and July 18); Snicker's Gap, Va. (July 18).

Type: No. 5395, U. S. Nat. Museum.

***Drosophila buskii* sp. nov.**

Head yellow, a black ocellar dot, center of upper part of occiput brown, two orange yellow frontal vittæ, converging anteriorly; front bearing a few short bristly hairs, the two pairs of vertical bristles placed one in front of the other, three pairs of orbital bristles, the four bristles composing the two anterior pairs placed transversely, the inner pair directed forward, the others backward; antennæ dark brown, the first two joints yellow, the third joint subequal in length to the second; the bristle below each vibrissa about two-thirds as long as the latter; mouth parts yellow; thorax yellow, opaque, yellowish gray pruinose, mesonotum marked with seven black vittæ of which the median one is forked posteriorly, pleura marked with three black vittæ, the upper two sometimes united anteriorly; scutellum yellow, the middle of the upper side next the base brown; abdomen black, a median vitta, the first segment largely, front edge of the second, and the outer front angles of the others, yellow; legs and halteres yellow; wings hyaline, unmarked, costa extending to apex of the fourth vein, last section of fifth vein almost as long as the penultimate section of the fourth, last section of fourth vein twice as long as the preceding section; length, 1.5 to 2 mm. Twenty specimens.

Hab.—Washington, D. C. (T. Pergande, D. W. Coquillett); Charlestown, W. Va. (A. Busck); Algonquin, Ill. (Dr. W. A. Nason).

Type: No. 5396, U. S. Museum.

Pieris occidentalis.—Last July, in Las Vegas, N. M., my little son Martin, found a number of larvæ which I took to be those of *Pieris protodice*, living upon *Cleome serrulata* (family Capparidaceæ). As the food-plant was a new one I requested him to rear the butterflies, so that we might be sure of the species. This he did, and when they emerged (3 ♂, 1 ♀) it turned out that they were not *protodice* but *occidentalis*. One specimen of a dipterous parasite was also bred; this has been referred by Mr. Coquillett to *Chatogædia crebra* V. d. W.—T. D. A. COCKERELL.

CORRECTION.—In ENT. NEWS, Vol. X, Dec., 1899, pp. 288-289, I recorded the occurrence in New York of what I then supposed was the Mantid known as *Stagmomantis carolina*. This year (1900) I have bred the insect from eggs laid at Rochester, N. Y., and Mr. Scudder finds that it is the common praying *Mantis* of Europe (*Mantis religiosa*), which has never before been recorded in America. I have just published a full account of this interesting introduction of a new beneficial insect in Bulletin 185 of the Cornell Experiment Station, a copy of which I will gladly send to any one interested.—M. V. SLINGERLAND.